

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089669

EXDIS FOR AMB FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: OREP (SENATOR JAVITS), EG, US

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF SENATOR JAVITS

1. PETE LAKELAND OF SENATOR JAVITS' STAFF EXPRESSED CONCERN TO ME THAT EGYPTIANS MAY FEEL THAT THE SENATOR WAS HOSTILE TO THE C-130 SALE, BECAUSE OF HIS ROLE IN SFRC HEARINGS ON THIS SUBJECT, AND THAT THIS WILL CAST A SHADOW OVER HIS FORTHCOMING TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT AND OTHERS. THE FACT IS THAT, GIVEN POLITICAL CONSTRAINTS WITHIN WHICH THE SENATOR MUST OPERATE, HE WAS HELPFUL IN SEEKING TO ACHIEVE AN OUTCOME THAT WOULD PERMIT THE SALE TO GO FORWARD AND AVOID A CONFRONTATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION ON THIS ISSUE. THERE WERE, AS YOU KNOW, PRESSURES TO HAVE CONGRESS SEEK TO BLOCK THE SALE, TO FORCE IT INTO COMMERCIAL CHANNELS, AND TO GET AN OPEN-ENDED COMMITMENT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THERE WOULD NEVER BE ANY FURTHER MILITARY SALES TO EGYPT. THE COMPROMISE FINALLY
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WORKED OUT AVOIDED ALL THESE EXTREMES AND WAS IN LARGE

MEASURE MADE POSSIBLE BY SENATOR JAVITS' EFFORTS ON THE U.S. SIDE, AS WELL AS BY PRESIDENT SADAT'S PRAGMATIC APPROACH IN AGREEING TO THE FORMULA ABOUT NO FURTHER MILITARY REQUESTS THIS YEAR.

2. I LEAVE IT ENTIRELY TO YOU WHETHER THERE IS ANY

NECESSITY TO PREPARE THE GROUNDWORK FOR AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE A VISIT BY JAVITS TO EGYPT, BUT SHOULD YOU FIND SOME PREPARATION IS IN ORDER, THE FOREGOING BACKGROUND SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOU. KISSINGER

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